KRIS A. MCLEAN Assistant United States Attorney W. ADAM DUERK Special Assistant U.S. Attorney U.S. Attorney's Office 105 E. Pine Street Missoula, MT 59802

Phone: (406) 542-8851 FAX: (406) 542-1476

Email: Kris.McLean@usdoj.gov Email: Adam.Duerk@usdoj.gov

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



MAR 1 8 2016

Clerk, U.S. District Court District Of Montana Billings

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA MISSOULA DIVISION

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

#### Plaintiff,

VS.

# GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, PAUL LYN NISBET,

Defendants.

#### CR 15-40-M-DLC

# SECOND SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT

CONSPIRACY (Count 1)
18 U.S.C. § 371
(Penalty: Five years imprisonment,
\$250,000 fine, and three years supervised release)

WIRE FRAUD (Counts 2-121)
18 U.S.C. §§ 1343, 2
(Penalty: 20 years imprisonment, \$250,000 fine, and three years supervised release)

BANK FRAUD (Counts 122-123) 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344, 2 (Penalty: 30 years imprisonment, \$1,000,000 fine, and 5 years supervised release)

FALSE STATEMENT TO FEDERALLY INSURED BANK (Counts 124-127) 18 U.S.C. §§ 1014, 2 (Penalty: 30 years imprisonment, \$1,000,000 fine, and 5 years supervised release)

BANKRUPTCY FRAUD (Counts 128-131) 18 U.S.C. §§ 152(4)(5) and (7); 2 (Penalty: Five years imprisonment, \$250,000 fine, and 3 years supervised release)

MONEY LAUNDERING (Counts 132-218) 18 U.S.C. §§ 1956, 1957, 2 (Penalty: 10 years imprisonment, \$250,000 fine or twice the amounts involved in the transactions, and 3 years supervised release)

TAX FRAUD (Counts 219-221)
26 U.S.C. § 7206(1)
(Penalty: Three years imprisonment,
\$250,000 fine, and 1 year supervised release)

FORFEITURE ALLEGATIONS
Title 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(c); 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), Title 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1),
Title 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A)

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

#### BACKGROUND

At all times material to this Indictment:

- Defendant GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE ("MANLOVE") was the Chief
   Executive Officer ("CEO") and Defendant PAUL LYN NISBET
   ("NISBET") was the Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") of Vann's, Inc.
- Vann's, Inc. ("Vann's") was a Montana Corporation that owned and
  operated retail electronics and appliance stores in Montana. Vann's was
  owned by its employees through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan
  ("ESOP").
- 3. This ESOP was intended to provide Vann's employees with funds for retirement.
- 4. Vann's was managed by a five-member Board of Directors, with three independent members plus MANLOVE and NISBET. The Board hired Defendant MANLOVE to run the day-to-day operations of the company.
- As part of the Board's responsibilities, the Board approved the overall compensation package for MANLOVE, including salary, bonuses, and fringe benefits.
- 6. Although MANLOVE was authorized to make expenditures on behalf of the company as part of running its day-to-day operations, MANLOVE was not authorized to change the amount of his salary, benefits or compensation package.

- 7. Furthermore, prior to entering into any material transaction involving

  Vann's funds, the Board required that it would be fully informed of any use

  of funds that was not an "arms-length" transaction, presented a conflict of

  interest, or appeared to be an expenditure for personal gain.
- 8. On March 30, 2007, the Board of Directors resolved that "any material transaction between related parties and transactions outside the ordinary course of business be approved by the Board before such transactions are entered into."
- 9. In addition to a base salary of at least \$200,000, MANLOVE'S compensation package at Vann's included a bonus program that provided incentives for meeting or exceeding profit goals for the company as a whole.
- 10. That incentive program stated that MANLOVE could receive a bonus of up to 40% of his base compensation if profit and sales targets were met, a 45% bonus if they were significantly exceeded and a pro-rata reduction if these targets were not met.
- 11. From the time that MANLOVE became CEO of Vann's on March 31, 2006, until June 11, 2012 (when the Board of Directors asked him to resign), MANLOVE received bonuses of between \$80,000 and \$100,000 per year.

- 12. In order to effectively direct and oversee Vann's, the Board required that MANLOVE and NISBET provide a complete and accurate picture of the financial status of the company.
- 13. To accomplish this, MANLOVE and NISBET had a duty to inform the Board of any significant changes in Vann's financial status, inform the Board of any significant corporate gains, losses or expenditures, and forward to the Board complete and accurate financial records.
- 14. It was the duty of both MANLOVE and NISBET to ensure that the Board was fully and accurately informed regarding the financial status of the company.
- 15. On or about July 14, 2011, two of the independent Board members resigned from the Vann's board, citing a lack of transparency and poor communication as reasons for their departure.
- 16. On or about October 3, 2011, the third independent board member resigned.
- 17. MANLOVE and NISBET, in addition to serving as officers of the company, were designated as trustees and fiduciaries of the Vann's ESOP plan.
- 18. As Trustees, MANLOVE and NISBET had a fiduciary duty to ensure that all ESOP assets were managed properly.
- 19. A "fiduciary" is defined as an individual in whom another has placed the utmost trust and confidence to manage and protect property or money. It is a

- relationship wherein one person has an obligation to act for another's benefit.
- 20. As fiduciaries of the ESOP, MANLOVE and NISBET were in a position of trust, tasked with the responsibility of safeguarding the assets of the ESOP and acting solely in the interest of Vann's shareholders.
- 21. On August 5, 2012, Vann's filed for bankruptcy under Chapter 11.

# COUNT 1 Conspiracy

- 22. Paragraphs 1 through 21 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 23. Beginning in approximately January 2006, and continuing until approximately February 15, 2013, in Missoula, in the State and District of Montana, and elsewhere, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did knowingly combine, conspire, confederate and agree among themselves:

#### **OBJECT OF THE CONSPIRACY**

24. To knowingly defraud Vann's, its shareholders, the beneficiaries of the Vann's ESOP, First Interstate Bank, Treasure State Bank, the bankruptcy Estate of Vann's as well as other creditors, lenders, and former employees of Vann's of its assets for the personal gain of both conspirators by committing offenses against the laws of the United States, those being wire fraud, bank

fraud, false statements, bankruptcy fraud, money laundering and aiding and abetting the same, all in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, 18 U.S.C. § 1344, 18 U.S.C. § 1014, 18 U.S.C. § 152, 18 U.S.C. § 1956, 18 U.S.C. § 1957 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

- 25. It was a purpose of the conspiracy to conceal and misrepresent the ongoing schemes perpetrated by the conspirators, thereby avoiding detection and enriching MANLOVE and NISBET.
- 26. It was a purpose of the conspiracy to conceal and misrepresent the true financial condition and status of Vann's in order to avoid detection of the defendants' fraudulent acts, thereby prolonging the period of the schemes to defraud and increasing the personal benefits of both conspirators.

#### MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

The following manner and means, among others, were used by defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, to effectuate and perpetrate the conspiracy set forth above:

- 27. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators obtained knowledge and were aware of the true financial condition of Vann's at all times material to this Indictment.
- 28. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators concealed the full extent of their knowledge of the financial condition of Vann's and withheld

information regarding the full extent of Vann's financial condition from shareholders, employees, ESOP plan participants, Vann's creditors, lenders, First Interstate Bank ("FIB"), Treasure State Bank ("TSB") and Vann's Board of Directors.

- 29. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators used their official positions within the company to obtain loans using Vann's assets as collateral and spend corporate assets for their own personal benefit.
- 30. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators falsely described, concealed from, and failed to reveal to shareholders, employees, ESOP plan participants, Vann's creditors, FIB, TSB and Vann's Board of Directors the full extent and true nature of the financial transactions involving the expenditure of Vann's corporate assets.
- 31. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators created third-party "shell" companies (the "LLC's") in order to obtain loans to purchase the real property in Helena (the "Helena Store") and the Missoula Outlet ("the Outlet Store") and then "lease" those properties back to Vann's for their personal benefit without Board approval.
- 32. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators, in the course of obtaining loans for the purchase of the Helena Store and the Outlet Store, made statements and submitted false information to loan officers at FIB and TSB

- that signed lease agreements existed between Vann's and the independent third-party LLC's owned and operated by the conspirators.
- 33. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators converted Vann's funds and assets into personal benefit, to include: personal credit card charges, travel expenses, personal property, jewelry, job-search expenses, MBA tuition and related expenses, club memberships, and unauthorized sales commissions.
- 34. It was part of the conspiracy that the conspirators engaged in what is commonly known as "off-balance sheet financing" in order to produce financial statements showing that the company was in a healthier financial position than reality. By misrepresenting Vann's financial position, the conspirators maintained a larger line of credit ("LOC"), borrowed money from banks, and avoided scrutiny from the Board of Directors and shareholders.

#### OVERT ACTS

In furtherance of the conspiracy and to affect its objects, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, committed numerous overt acts in the District of Montana and elsewhere, including, but not limited to, the following:

# JPEG and the Outlet Store

- 35. On or about March 19, 2007, MANLOVE and NISBET formed JPEG, LLC, each contributing capital in the amount of \$250 to form this company.
- 36. On or about April 11, 2007, without board authority, NISBET executed a "lease" between Vann's and JPEG, in which Vann's agreed to lease real estate known as the "Outlet Store" in Missoula, Montana.
- 37. On or about April 24, 2007, on behalf of JPEG, NISBET and MANLOVE obtained a loan from Treasure State Bank in the amount of \$1,412,000 to purchase the Outlet Store.
- 38. On or about April 24, 2007, MANLOVE and NISBET on behalf of JPEG, submitted to Treasure State Bank a Deed of Trust for the Outlet Store as well as an Assignment of Rents contract signed by both MANLOVE and NISBET as security for the loan.
- 39. On or about June 1, 2007, at NISBET and MANLOVE's direction, Vann's began making monthly lease payments of \$15,900 to JPEG, LLC for the Outlet Store, resulting in MANLOVE and NISBET receiving approximately \$906,300 from June 2007 through March 2012, including 12 monthly lease payments totaling approximately \$190,800 after the store had closed in February 2011.

### Painted Sky and the Helena Store

- 40. On or about April 11, 2007, MANLOVE and his wife J.M. (name withheld to protect identity) formed Painted Sky, LLC, with each contributing capital of \$250 to form this company.
- 41. On or about September 4, 2007, at MANLOVE and NISBET's direction, Vann's purchased real estate known as the "Helena Store" at Helena, Montana for \$725,000.
- 42. At MANLOVE and NISBET's direction, Vann's then paid for construction and improvements to the building, which, with vendor contributions, increased Vann's total investment in the Helena Store to \$2,896,533.
- 43. On September 7, 2008, MANLOVE sent an email to B.H. (name withheld to protect privacy) and two other board members with proposed terms of a lease between Vann's and "Lessor GEORGE LESLIE and J. Manlove (name withheld to protect privacy)LLC."
- 44. On September 17, 2008, B.H. replied back that he had no problem with the lease as long as "the transaction is at arms-length."
- 45. On September 17, 2008, on behalf of Painted Sky, LLC, MANLOVE and his wife, J.M., signed and submitted a "Business Loan Agreement" to obtain a loan from First Interstate Bank in the amount of \$2,117,850.50 to purchase the Helena Store.

- 46. On or about September 17, 2008, MANLOVE and his wife, J.M., signed and submitted to First Interstate Bank both a "Deed of Trust" on the real estate as well as an "Assignment of Rents" contract signed by both MANLOVE and his wife. J.M., as referenced in the "Business Loan Agreement" as security for the loan.
- 47. From these loan proceeds, MANLOVE and NISBET used \$1 million to pay off Vann's construction loan and \$998,000 to pay down Vann's revolving line of credit.
- 48. From these loan proceeds, on September 17, 2008, MANLOVE used \$100,000 to pay down his own individual Home Equity Line of Credit.
- 49. On or about October 7, 2008, at NISBET and MANLOVE's direction, Vann's began making monthly lease payments of \$17,400 to Painted Sky, LLC for the Helena Store.
- 50. From October 2008 through September 2012, at MANLOVE and NISBET's direction, Vann's made monthly lease payments to Painted Sky in the amount of \$15,400 to \$17,400, resulting in MANLOVE receiving a total of approximately \$819,200, including six monthly lease payments totaling approximately \$92,400 after the Helena Store had closed in March 2012.

# Bank Fraud and False Statements JPEG

- 51. On or about April 24, 2007, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG,
  LLC, obtained a loan from Treasure State Bank in the amount of \$1,412,000
  for the purchase of the Outlet Building, by submitting an "assignment of
  rents" signed by both MANLOVE and NISBET as principals of JPEG, LLC.
- 52. On or about April 24, 2007, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG, LLC, falsely represented to Treasure State Bank that there was a valid signed lease agreement between JPEG, LLC and Vann's.
- 53. On March 4, 2008, NISBET wrote to C.R. (name withheld to protect privacy) at an accounting firm in an email that "We do not have signed leases for Bozeman, Lolo or the Outlet . . . ."
- 54. On or about June 30, 2008, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG, LLC, refinanced the loan for the purchase of Vann's Outlet Store through First Interstate Bank by falsely representing to First Interstate Bank that there was a valid lease between Vann's and JPEG, LLC.
- 55. On or about March 2, 2011, NISBET provided a chart to First Interstate Bank that included misrepresentations regarding Vann's leases with JPEG, LLC and Painted Sky, LLC.

#### Painted Sky

- 56. On or about September 17, 2008, MANLOVE, on behalf of Painted Sky, LLC, obtained a loan from First Interstate Bank in the amount of \$2,117,850.50 for the purchase of the Helena Store by submitting a first deed of trust and "lease assignment of rents" signed by MANLOVE as a principal of Painted Sky, LLC.
- 57. On or about September 17, 2008 MANLOVE, on behalf of Painted Sky, LLC, falsely represented to First Interstate Bank that there was a valid signed lease agreement between Painted Sky, LLC and Vann's, Inc.

#### Kellogg MBA degree and "Job Interviews"

- 58. On or about September 2009, MANLOVE, enrolled in a Master's in

  Business Administration degree program at the Kellogg School of Business
  at Northwestern University in Illinois.
- 59. Between September 2009 and June 2011, MANLOVE, aided, abetted and assisted by NISBET, without Board approval, caused Vann's to pay all tuition and expenses for the degree program.
- 60. On May 2, 2011, MANLOVE caused Vann's to pay \$120 to

  Theladders.com, a website service that boasts "The Most \$100K + Jobs."
- 61. On May 11, 2011, MANLOVE sent an email to Vann's senior management stating that he was not leaving Vann's.

- 62. On May 11, 2011, MANLOVE caused Vann's to pay \$695 to The Ladders.
- 63. On June 20, 2011, MANLOVE wrote an email to J.M. (name withheld to protect identity), stating: "I have decided to open the next chapter of my life and am planning my exit from our company." MANLOVE further wrote that he had been approached by many companies looking for an exceptional leader.
- 64. On June 27, 2011, MANLOVE sent his resume to Amazon, applying for a senior executive position.
- 65. On September 27, 2011, MANLOVE sent an email to the President/Broker and "Certified Business Coach" of a Business Services company in the resort town of Park City, UT. The signature line in the email identified MANLOVE as "George L. Manlove, MBA Successful Entrepreneur and Internet Visionary Park City, Utah." MANLOVE's email stated: "My wife and I have recently built a new home in Park City and have relocated to PC from Montana. I have been looking for a business to purchase or a start-up partnership opportunity... I am also open to financial services, especially Private Equity, VC or Private Wealth Management and would consider a lifestyle business in the Park City area."

# Unauthorized Personal Expenses Credit Card Charges

66. MANLOVE, starting in 2006 and continuing into 2012, without Board authority, made purchases for personal goods and services that he charged to Vann's credit card or submitted to Vann's for reimbursement, including: a class ring; airfare for family trips; hotel and travel expenses for a mother/daughter shopping trip to New York City; vacation expenses; personal expenses for a move to Park City, Utah; and tuition payments and other personal expenses while attending the Kellogg School of Business at Northwestern University. See Exhibit A, attached and incorporated herein by reference.

# Club Memberships

- 67. On June 19, 2008, NISBET issued a \$50,000 Vann's check to the Rock Creek Cattle Company (known hereafter as "RCCC") for MANLOVE'S initial club membership fee.
- 68. On June 27, 2011, MANLOVE and NISBET, without Board authorization, caused Vann's to pay a \$6,000 annual fee for MANLOVE'S ongoing RCCC membership and continued to pay these fees from September 9, 2008, until June 27, 2011, for a total of \$22,550.

69. On June 30, 2009, NISBET and MANLOVE, without board authorization, caused Vann's to pay Ranch Club membership dues for MANLOVE and NISBET in monthly payments for a total amount exceeding \$6,000.

#### Jewelry

70. On or about September 30, 2009, MANLOVE, without board authorization, traded jewelry store owner R.E. (name withheld to protect identity) \$18,750 worth of Vann's services and goods for jewelry. This jewelry included a pair of princess cut diamond solitaire earrings valued at \$11,750 and a Rolex GMT watch valued at \$7,000.

#### **Family Benefits**

- 71. For tax years 2008 and 2009, MANLOVE caused Vann's to hire his daughter, C.M. (name withheld to protect privacy) and pay her compensation totaling \$8,462.60 in 2008 and \$6,634.35 in 2009. During that same time frame, C.M. was living in Denver, Colorado.
- 72. On or about June 8 through June 13, 2009, MANLOVE caused Vann's to pay in excess of \$2,000 for his daughter, W.M. (name withheld to protect privacy) and his wife J.M. (name withheld to protect privacy) to fly to New York City and stay in a hotel off Park Avenue for five nights as part of a "mother/daughter week" of shopping.

# "Realtor" Commission

- 73. On or about June 3, 2008, MANLOVE and NISBET, without Board approval, caused Vann's to purchase Lot 45 at the Rock Creek Cattle Company, near Deer Lodge, Montana.
- 74. MANLOVE obtained a commission of approximately \$3,793 on this sale as the "licensed buyer's agent" from a local real estate company.

# Impending Bankruptcy

- 75. On January 11, 2011, MANLOVE sent an email to Vann's management stating that company bonuses would only be paid out of operating surplus and requested across the board salary reductions for all exempt employees and hourly staff reduction and reduced staff hours.
- 76. On February 4, 2011, MANLOVE sent an email to one of the internal bookkeepers at Vann's. NISBET received a copy of this email. In the email, MANLOVE asked "Are we heading for a train wreck?" The bookkeeper's response, sent later that day, stated: "It must come together this month and continue into March, or the train will run us down!"
- 77. On May 1, 2011, NISBET sent MANLOVE an email stating that cash was at a "critical point." MANLOVE responded by email that he was in class at Kellogg.

- 78. On July 5, 2011, NISBET emailed MANLOVE stating that Vann's line of credit was maxed and that "backs are against the wall."
- 79. On July 14, 2011, MANLOVE emailed NISBET and Vann's managers that Vann's is now in crisis mode.
- 80. Despite both the defendants' knowledge of Vann's financial peril and imminent bankruptcy, MANLOVE and NISBET continued to cause Vann's to make lease payments to JPEG, LLC and Painted Sky LLC, even after the Outlet Store and Helena Store stores went out of business at these locations.
- 81. On February 15, 2013, MANLOVE, through counsel, filed a Proof of Claim in the Vann's bankruptcy case, Cause No. 12-61281-JLP, making a claim for \$2,445,300, on the basis that Vann's had breached its contract with Painted Sky LLC for unpaid lease payments and other expenses.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371.

# COUNTS 2-121 Wire Fraud The Scheme To Defraud

- 82. Paragraphs 1 through 81 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 83. Beginning on approximately March 31, 2006, and continuing until on or about February 15, 2013, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, in Missoula and Helena, in the State and District of Montana, and elsewhere, executed a material scheme and artifice to

defraud Vann's, Vann's former employees, the beneficiaries of the Employee Stock Ownership Plan, First Interstate Bank, Vann's other creditors and lenders, and the *Estate of Vann's, Inc.*, and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses and representations.

#### MANNER AND MEANS

- 84. It was part of the scheme that the defendants obtained the money, funds and assets of Vann's, and others, by using their positions as Officers of Vann's to commit the acts as described above under the headings:
  - a. Property Purchase and Leaseback
  - b. Bank Fraud
  - c. Kellogg MBA degree and "Job Interview"
  - d. Unauthorized Personal Expenses
  - e. Credit Card Charges
  - f. Club Memberships
  - g. Jewelry
  - h. Family Benefits
  - i. Realtor Commission
  - j. Impending Bankruptcy

# COUNTS 2-85 Personal Expenses The Wires

- 85. Paragraphs 1 through 84 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 86. For the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the aforementioned material scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses and representations, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did transmit and cause to be transmitted in interstate commerce by means of wire communications, certain writings, that is bank transfers and credit card payments, as described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein, each such instance being a separate and additional Count of this Indictment, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNTS 86-106 Leaseback Scheme - Painted Sky, LLC. The Wires

- 87. Paragraphs 1 through 86 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 88. For the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the aforementioned material scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses and representations, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET,

did transmit and cause to be transmitted in interstate commerce by means of wire communications, certain writings, that is bank transfers, as described below, each such instance being a separate and additional Count of this Indictment, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 343 and

18 U.S.C. § 2:

Count	Date	Amount	From FIB Account #	To Account #
86	1/1/2011	\$17,400.00	Ending In 9889	Ending In 7200
87	2/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
88	3/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
89	4/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
90	5/2/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
91	6/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
92	7/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
93	8/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
94	9/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
95	10/3/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
96	11/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
97	12/1/2011	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
98	1/3/2012	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
99	2/1/2012	\$17,400.00	9889	7200
100	3/1/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
101	4/2/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
102	5/1/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
103	6/1/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
104	7/2/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
105	8/2/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200
106	9/4/2012	\$15,400.00	9889	7200

# **COUNTS 107-121** Leaseback Scheme - JPEG, LLC The Wires

Paragraphs 1 through 88 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full. 89.

90. For the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the aforementioned material scheme and artifice to defraud, and for obtaining money and property by means of material false and fraudulent pretenses and representations, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did transmit and cause to be transmitted in interstate commerce by means of wire communications, certain writings, that is bank transfers, as described below, each such instance being a separate and additional Count of this Indictment, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

Count:	Date:	Amount:	From FIB Account #:	Transferred to TSB Account #:
107	12/31/2010	\$15,900.00	Ending In 9889	Ending In 1013
108	1/31/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
109	3/1/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
110	3/31/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
111	5/2/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	. 1013
112	5/31/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
113	7/1/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
114	8/1/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
115	8/31/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
116	10/3/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
117	10/31/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
118	12/1/2011	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
119	1/3/2012	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
120	1/31/2012	\$15,900.00	9889	1013
121	3/1/2012	\$15,900.00	9889	1013

# COUNT 122 BANK FRAUD (Painted Sky, LLC)

- 91. Paragraphs 1 through 90 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 92. Beginning on or about June 23, 2008, and continuing until on or about March 2, 2011, in Missoula, in the District of Montana and elsewhere, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did knowingly execute, and attempt to execute, a material scheme and artifice to defraud a financial institution, and to obtain any of the moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities and other property owned by, and under custody or control of, a financial institution, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises, as follows:
- 93. On or about September 17, 2008, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of Painted Sky, LLC, obtained a loan from First Interstate Bank, an insured depository institution under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act in the amount of \$2,117,850.50, for the purchase of the Helena Store.
- 94. The collateral on this loan was a first deed of trust and "lease assignment of rents" signed by MANLOVE as a principal of Painted Sky, LLC.
- 95. On or about September 17, 2008, NISBET falsely represented that there was a valid signed lease agreement between Painted Sky, LLC. and Vann's, for the Helena Store.

- 96. No lease existed at the time the loan documents were signed, and no lease was ever approved by the Vann's Board of Directors.
- 97. On or about February 18, 2011, First Interstate Bank requested information regarding Vann's leases.
- 98. In response to the bank's request, on or about March 2, 2011, NISBET provided a chart falsely representing that a valid lease was in existence between Painted Sky, LLC and Vann's for the Helena Store.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNT 123 BANK FRAUD (JPEG, LLC)

- 99. Paragraphs 1 through 98 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 100. Beginning on or about April 24, 2007, and continuing until on or about March 2, 2011, in Missoula, in the District of Montana, and elsewhere, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did knowingly execute, and attempt to execute, a material scheme and artifice to defraud a financial institution, and to obtain any of the moneys, funds, credits, assets, securities and other property owned by, and under custody or control of, a financial institution, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses, representations or promises, as follows:
- 101. On or about April 24, 2007, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG, LLC, obtained a loan from Treasure State Bank, an insured depository

- institution under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act in the amount of \$1,412,000 for the purchase of the Outlet Store.
- 102. As collateral on this loan, MANLOVE and NISBET submitted an "assignment of rents" signed by both MANLOVE and NISBET as principals of JPEG, LLC.
- 103. This loan agreement was based in part on the representation that there was a valid lease agreement between JPEG, LLC and Vann's for the Outlet Store.
- 104. No board-approved lease existed at the time the loan documents were signed, and no lease was ever approved by the Vann's Board of Directors.
- 105. On or about June 30, 2008, NISBET and MANLOVE refinanced the loan for the purchase of the "Outlet Store" through First Interstate Bank.
- 106. While re-financing this loan, NISBET misled First Interstate Bank by falsely representing that there was a valid signed lease between Vann's and JPEG, LLC.
- 107. On or about February 18, 2011, First Interstate Bank requested information from Vann's regarding Vann's leases.
- 108. In response to the bank's request, on or about March 2, 2011, NISBET provided a chart falsely representing that a valid lease was in existence between JPEC, LLC and Vann's for the Outlet Store.
- All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1344 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNTS 124-127 FALSE STATEMENTS

- 109. Paragraphs 1 through 108 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 110. Beginning on or about April 24, 2007, and continuing until on or about March 2, 2011, in Missoula, in the District of Montana, and elsewhere, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did make false statements knowing the same to be false, for the purpose of influencing in any way the actions of First Interstate Bank and Treasure State Bank, both federally insured lending institutions, as follows:

#### **COUNT 124**

111. On or about April 24, 2007, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG, LLC, obtained a \$1,412,000 loan from Treasure State Bank for the purchase of the Outlet Store based on signed statements submitted by NISBET and MANLOVE that there was a valid lease agreement between Vann's and JPEG, LLC for the Outlet Store.

#### **COUNT 125**

112. On or about June 30, 2008, NISBET and MANLOVE, on behalf of JPEG, LLC, refinanced the loan for the purchase of the Outlet Store in Missoula through First Interstate Bank by representing that there was a valid lease agreement between Vann's, Inc. and JPEG, LLC for the Outlet Store.

#### **COUNT 126**

113. On or about September 17, 2008, MANLOVE, on behalf of Painted Sky, LLC, obtained a loan from First Interstate Bank in the amount of \$2,117,850.50 for the purchase of the Helena Store, based on signed statements submitted by NISBET and MANLOVE that there was a valid lease agreement in place between Vann's and Painted Sky, LLC for the Outlet Store.

#### **COUNT 127**

114. On or about March 2, 2011, NISBET and MANLOVE provided First

Interstate Bank a chart that falsely represented that valid lease agreements
existed between JPEG, LLC, and Vann's for the Outlet Store and Painted
Sky, LLC and Vann's for the Helena Store.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1014 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNT 128 BANKRUPTCY FRAUD (False Proof of Claim)

- 115. Paragraphs 1 through 114 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 116. On or about February 15, 2013, in the State and District of Montana, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, knowingly and fraudulently presented a false claim in the amount of \$2,445,300 for proof against the estate of Vann's, cause number 12-61281-JLP, which sum purportedly was

due by the debtor to the defendant's business entity, Painted Sky, LLC (MANLOVE), for lease payments and other amounts "due" under the terms of agreements between Painted Sky, LLC and Vann's, when in truth and in fact, as GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE well knew, no such amounts were legitimately owed by the debtor, Vann's.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 152(4).

# COUNT 129 BANKRUPTCY FRAUD (Painted Sky LLC, Rent Payment)

- 117. Paragraphs 1 through 116 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 118. Beginning on or about August 5, 2012, and continuing through September 4, 2012, in the State and District of Montana, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, with the intent to defeat the provisions of Title 11, knowingly and fraudulently received a material amount of property from Vann's, a debtor in *In the matter of Vann's Inc.*, Cause No. 12-61281-JLP, under Title 11, to wit: one monthly rental payment to Painted Sky, LLC in the amount of \$15,400.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 152(5).

# COUNT 130 BANKRUPTCY FRAUD (Anticipation of Bankruptcy – Painted Sky)

119. Paragraphs 1 through 118 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.

120. Beginning on or about April 1, 2012, and continuing through August 5, 2012, in the State and District of Montana, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, in contemplation of a bankruptcy case under Title 11 of the United States Code by Vann's, specifically the case entitled *Vann's*, *Inc.* Cause No. 12-61281-JLP, filed August 5, 2012, in the District of Montana, and with the intent to defeat the provisions of Title 11, knowingly and fraudulently transferred to Painted Sky, LLC, a corporation owned in part by GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, five months of lease payments at a rate of between \$15,400.00 and \$17,400.00 per month.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 152(7).

# COUNT 131 BANKRUPTCY FRAUD (Anticipation of Bankruptcy – JPEG)

- 121. Paragraphs 1 through 120 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 122. Beginning on or about March 31, 2011, and continuing through August 5, 2012, in Missoula, in the State and District of Montana, and elsewhere, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, in contemplation of a bankruptcy case under Title 11 of the United States Code by Vann's, specifically the case entitled *Vann's Inc.*, Cause No. 12-61281-JLP, filed August 5, 2012, in the District of Montana, and with the intent to defeat the provisions of Title 11, knowingly and fraudulently transferred to

JPEG, LLC, a corporation owned in part by GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, 12 months of lease payments at a rate of between \$15,900.00 and \$17,400 per month.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 152(7) and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNTS 132-167 MONEY LAUNDERING

- 123. Paragraphs 1 through 122 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 124. Beginning on or about December 31, 2010, and continuing until on or about September 17, 2012, in the State and District of Montana, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did knowingly conduct and attempt to engage in monetary transactions in criminally derived property that is of a value greater than \$10,000 and is derived from specified unlawful activity, that is wire fraud, and that the monetary transactions took place in the United States.
- 125. Each transaction in criminally derived property is set forth in Exhibit B, attached, and fully incorporated by reference, each such instance being a separate and additional Count of this Indictment.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1957 and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

# COUNTS 168-218 MONEY LAUNDERING

126. Paragraphs 1 through 125 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.

- 127. Beginning on or about January 3, 2011, in the District of Montana, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, did knowingly conduct and attempt to conduct a financial transaction affecting interstate and foreign commerce, to wit, wire transfers as set out in Exhibit C, incorporated by reference, which involved the proceeds of a specified unlawful activity, that is a conspiracy to defraud Vann's and Wire Fraud, with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity, to wit: a leaseback scheme to defraud Vann's, and that while conducting and attempting to conduct such financial transactions knew that the property involved in the financial transactions represented the proceeds of some form of unlawful activity.
- 128. Each transaction in criminally derived property is set forth in Exhibit C, attached, and fully incorporated by reference, each such instance being a separate and additional Count of this Indictment.

All in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(1)(A)(i) and 18 U.S.C. § 2.

### COUNTS 219-221 TAX FRAUD

- 129. Paragraphs 1 through 128 are incorporated by reference as if set forth in full.
- 130. That on or about the dates hereinafter set forth, in the District of Montana, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, a resident of Missoula,

Montana, did willfully make and subscribe to three U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns, Forms 1040, filed jointly for the tax years 2009, 2010 and 2011, which were verified by a written declaration that they were made under the penalties of perjury and which MANLOVE did not believe to be true and correct as to every material matter. Those tax returns, which were prepared and signed and caused to be signed in the State and District of Montana and filed and caused to be filed with the person assigned to receive returns at the local office of the Internal Revenue Service in Fresno, California, stated incorrect and underreported income and benefits, whereas, as MANLOVE then and there knew, he received taxable fringe benefits, taxable educational benefits, and other unreported taxable benefits and income in addition to the amounts stated in the tax returns, as set forth below.

# **COUNT 219 (2009)**

131. On or about October 15, 2010, in filing that false return, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, stated that his income for the calendar year 2009 was the sum of \$494,354, and that the amount of tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$105,574. In fact, as he then and there knew, his income for the calendar year was the sum of \$540,753, upon which taxable income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of

\$119,348.

### **COUNT 220 (2010)**

On or about July 19, 2011, in filing that false return, the defendant,

GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, stated that his income for the calendar year

2010 was the sum of \$406,506, and that the amount of tax due and owing
thereon was the sum of \$89,853. In fact, as he then and there knew, his
income for the calendar year was the sum of \$458,402, upon which taxable
income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of
\$108,017.

### **COUNT 221 (2011)**

133. On or about July 2, 2012, in filing that false return, the defendant, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE, stated that his income for the calendar year 2011 was the sum of \$478,551, and that the amount of tax due and owing thereon was the sum of \$110,564. In fact, as he then and there knew, his income for the calendar year was the sum of \$538,663, upon which taxable income there was owing to the United States of America an income tax of \$127,967.

All in violation of 26 U.S.C. § 7206(1).

### FIRST FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

134. Upon conviction of the wire fraud offenses set forth in Counts 2-121 of this Indictment, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offense.

If any property that constitutes or is derived from the proceeds traceable to the offenses set forth in Counts 2-121:

- a. Cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. Has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. Had been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. Has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. Has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

#### SECOND FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

135. Upon conviction of the money laundering offenses set forth in Counts 132 - 218 of this Indictment, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(1), any property, real and personal, involved in such offenses, and any property traceable to such property.

If any property that constitutes or is derived from the proceeds traceable to the offenses set forth in Counts 132 -218:

- f. Cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- g. Has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- h. Had been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- i. Has been substantially diminished in value; or
- j. Has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

#### THIRD FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

136. Upon conviction of the bank fraud offenses set forth in Counts 122-127 of this Indictment, the defendants, GEORGE LESLIE MANLOVE and PAUL LYN NISBET, shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(2)(A), any property constituting and derived from proceeds obtained directly and indirectly as a result of such violations.

If any property that constitutes or is derived from the proceeds traceable to the offenses set forth in Counts 122-127:

- a. Cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. Has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;

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- c. Had been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the Court;
- d. Has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. Has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty, the United States of America shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL.

Foreperson signature redacted. Original document filed under seal.

MICHAEL W. COTTER
United States Attorney

JOSEPH E. THAGGARD

Criminal Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney

Crim. Summons X April 7th

Warrant:

Bail: